

IT'S AWESOME! IT'S EPIC! IT'S INTENSE! IT'S--

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Archie
COMICS

SEGA®

ISSUE 256



Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures - A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...



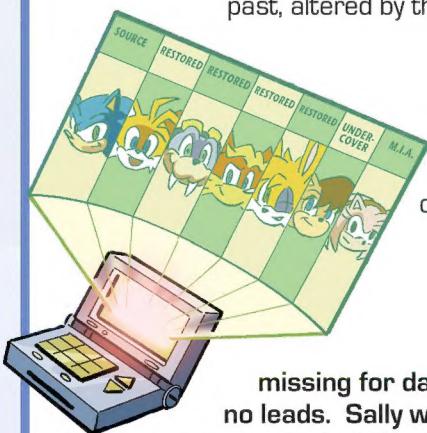
THE TEAM REUNITES! LET FREEDOM RING!

After foiling Dr. Eggman's plans, both Sonic and Eggman woke up back in their home world, but with new memories – and a new past, altered by the reality-warping Genesis Wave!

Ever since, Sonic has been reuniting his fellow freedom fighters restoring their memories and in the process restoring Nicole's fractured database. Once complete, they hope to understand what happened to their world!

Only two Freedom Fighters are missing now: Sally Acorn and Amy Rose. Amy has been

missing for days with no leads. Sally was on a mission to find the disabled Death Egg and steal crucial data. While she succeeded, Dr. Eggman discovered her, and sent Metal Sonic to ensure she didn't escape...



WHO'S WHO



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING ALIVE



MILES "TAILS" PROWER
SONIC'S BEST BUD



DR. EGGMAN
SONIC'S MAD SCIENTIST NEMESIS



METAL SONIC
SONIC'S EVIL ROBOTIC DOUBLE

**MOBOTROPOLIS,
WESTSIDE ISLAND...**

**CREAM
THE RABBIT
YOUNG FLYER**

**CHEESE
DEVOTED CHAO
CHAMPION**

**MISS
BLAZE DID
IT! WE'RE
HOME!***

**WE
SURE ARE!
I BET SONIC
MISSED
ME...**

**AMY ROSE
THE HAMMER**

FWA-WHOOSH!

**HE
BETTER
HAVE
MISSSED
ME...**

**BEAN THE DUCK
DYNAMITE
MERCENARY**

**OH,
GOODNESS!
I BET MOTHER
IS WORRIED
SICK!**

**BARK
THE POLAR BEAR
SILENT PARTNER**

**DON'T WORRY,
CREAM. WE'RE BACK,
WE'RE SAFE, AND
WE'LL TELL HER *ALL*
ABOUT OUR ADVENTURES
OVER TEA
LIKE ALWAYS.**

*** "PIRATE PLUNDER PANIC"
--SU# 55-58.**

OOH!

**WILL THERE BE
CRUMPETS? TEA
BISCUITS?**

SCONES?!

SKYOW!

FINE! NO
SCONES, THEN.
SHEESH!



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at SEGA Licensing

COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS
FINALE: THE PRINCESS AND THE HAMMER

C'MON...
C'MON...

SALLY?!

SCANG!

SALLY ACORN
THE PRINCESS

AMY! OH,
THANK GOODNESS!
I DIDN'T THINK MY
DISTRESS SIGNAL
GOT OUT! METAL
SONIC'S RIGHT
ON MY--

--TAIL!

METAL SONIC
KILLER ROBOT

ALTHOUGH--NO OFFENSE--I WISH YOU'D BROUGHT MORE BACK-UP, CONSIDERING...

ROBOT OR HEDGEHOG, I CAN HANDLE ANY SONIC!

SHING!

PIKO!

MISTER BEAN!
MISTER BARK!
WE COULD
REALLY USE
YOUR HELP
RIGHT NOW!

YOU SURE
COULD! HOW
MUCH MONEY
YOU GOT ON
YA?

N-NONE,
B-BUT...

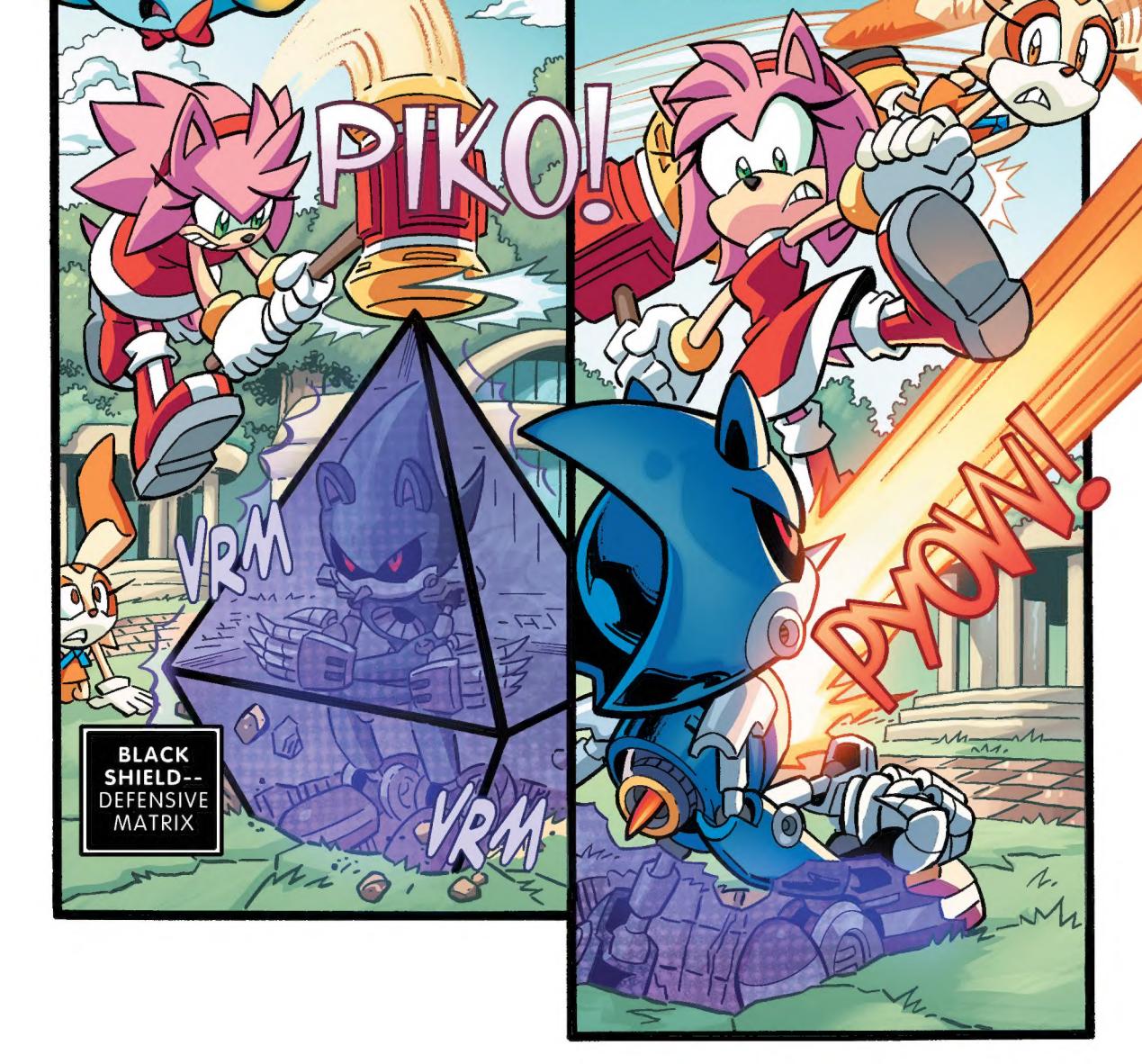
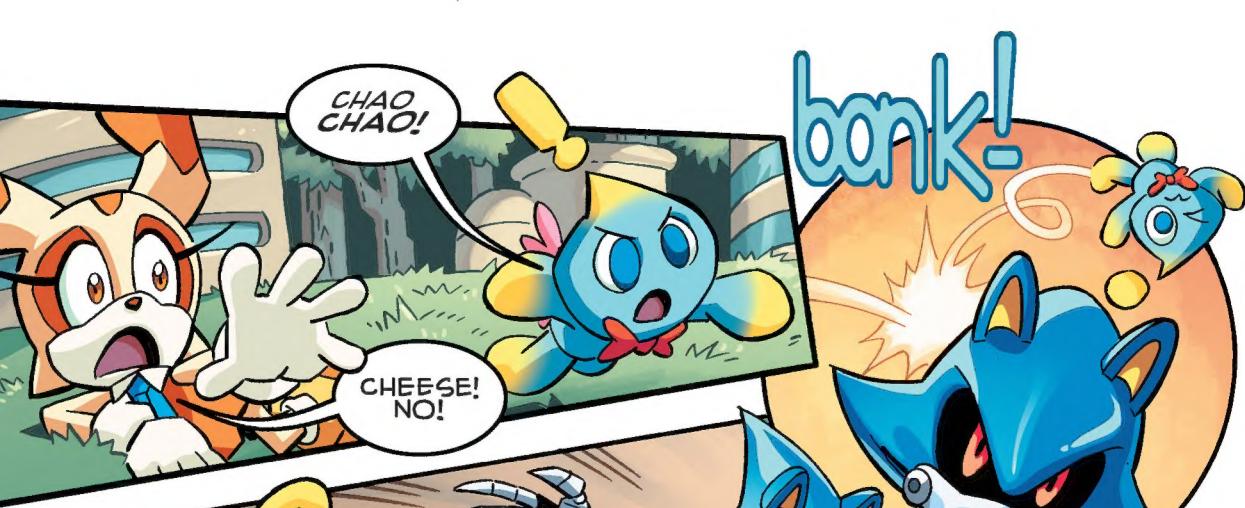
SORRY, KIDDIO!
ONLY ONE PRO
BONO ADVENTURE
PER VISIT! (AND I
THINK WE'RE
WANTED CRIMINALS
HERE.) TOODLES!

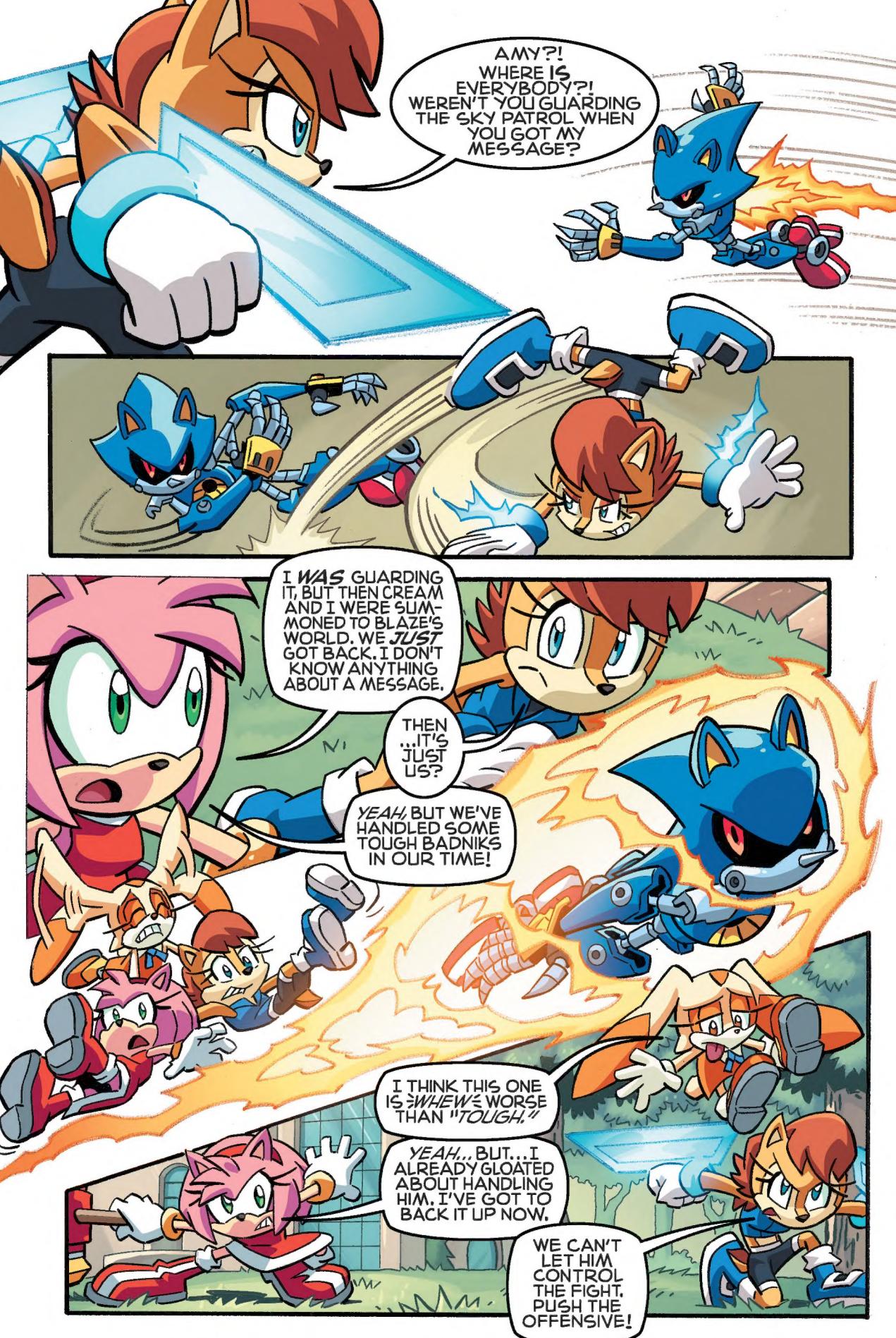
BUT...
BUT...
YOU'RE
SO
MEAN!

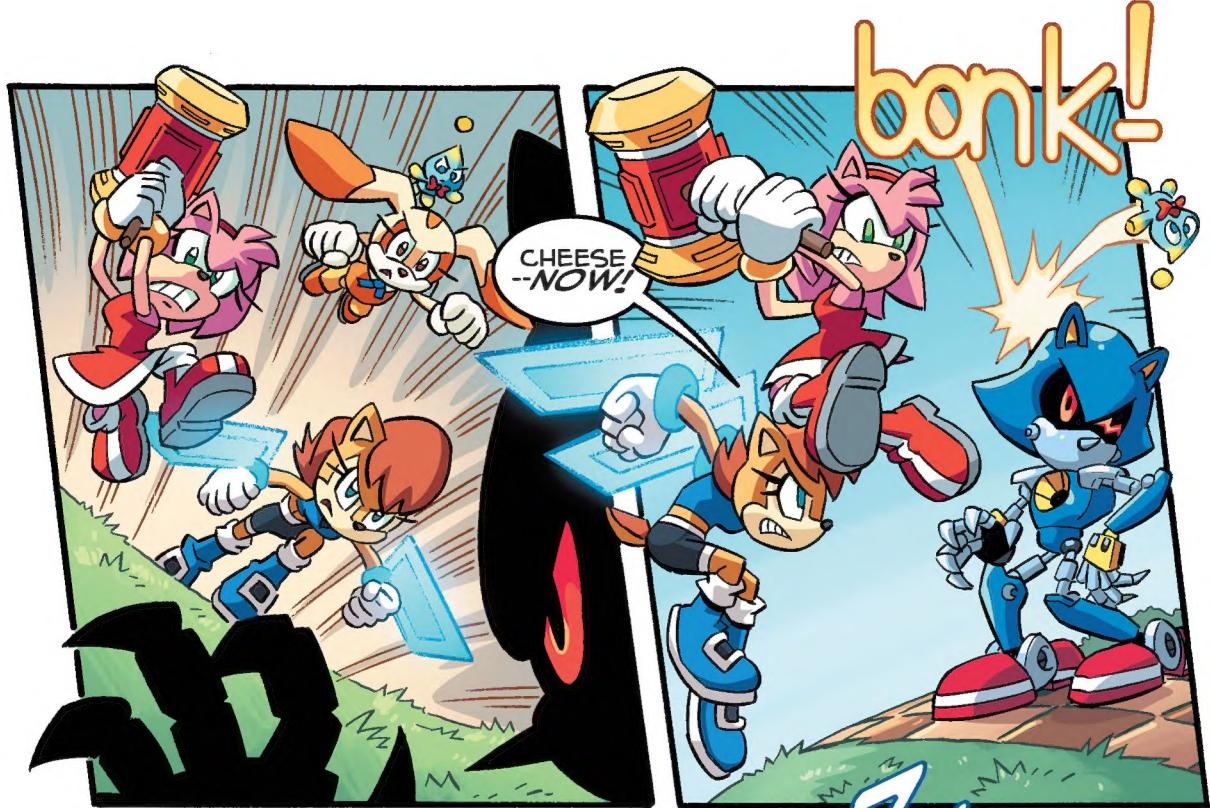
EEEK!

SHRIPI!









bonk!



BURST
SHIELD--
JOINT MATRIX



GET BACK, YOUR HIGHNESS! WE'LL HANDLE THIS!

NO! FOCUS ON GETTING THE CITIZENS TO A SAFE--!

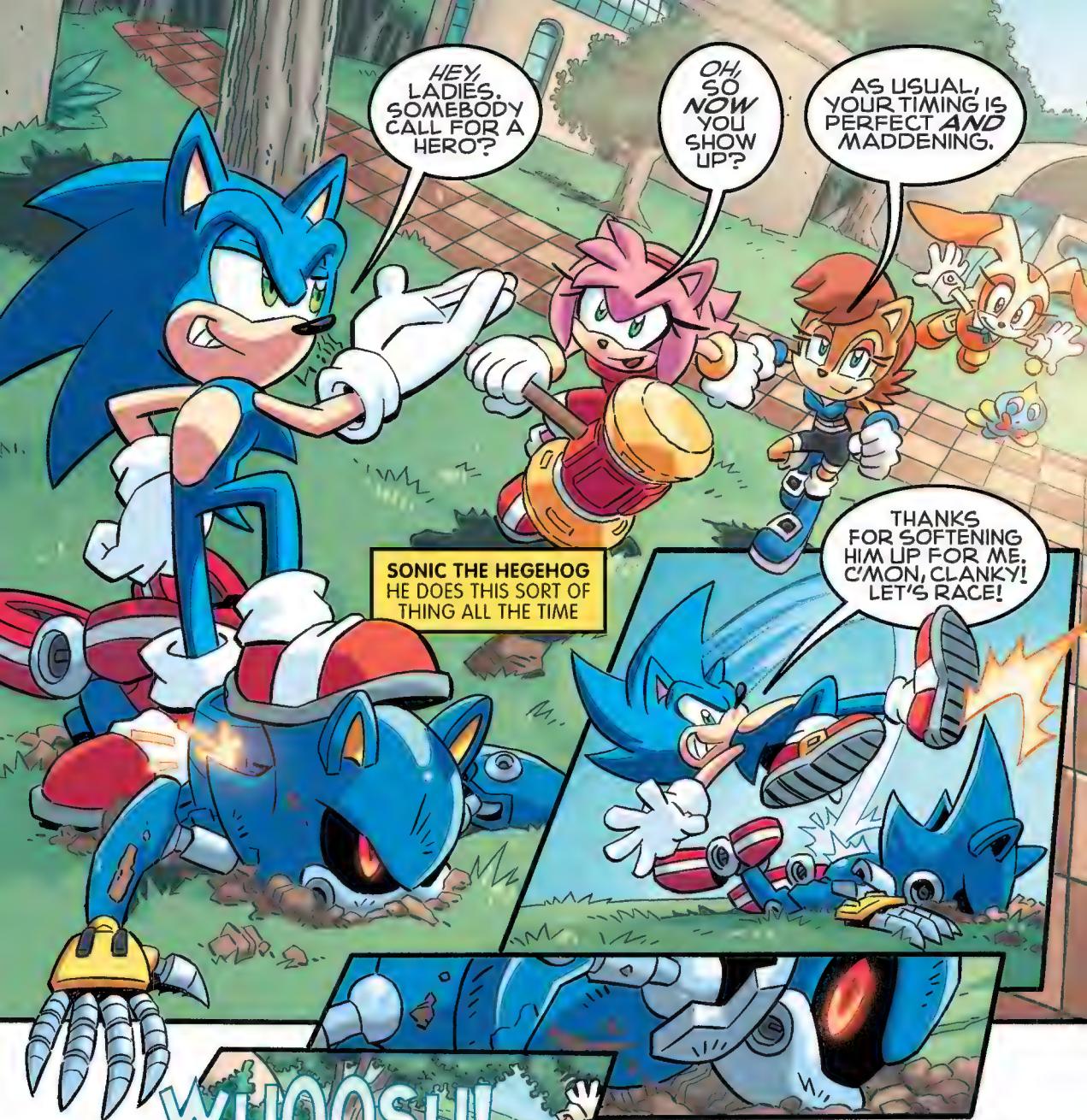
W-WE FAILED YOU...

THAT THING GIVES SONIC A RUN FOR HIS MONEY. BE HAPPY YOU'RE ALIVE.

SO... YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A DISTRESS SIGNAL?

I SENT ONE TO THE SKY PATROL ONCE I KNEW METAL SONIC WAS AFTER ME. IF WE WERE GETTING BACK-UP, IT'D BE HERE BY--





YOU HAVIN' TROUBLE KEEPING PACE? DID THOSE MEANIES PLAY TOO ROUGH WITH YOU?

DAMAGE IS NOMINAL.
I AM STILL FASTER.

EHH--MAYBE,
MAYBE NOT.
TODAY, I DON'T
REALLY CARE.
I'M JUST THE
DISTRACTION...

...WHILE
TAILS GETS
A MISSILE
LOCK.

WHA-BOOM

I ZZZTE
WILL
SURPASS
YOU...

YOU KEEP SAYING
THAT, CRAWL ON
BACK TO EGGMAN.
I'VE GOT BIGGER
THINGS TO HANDLE
TODAY THAN YOU.

TAILS!
YOU
READ ME,
BUDDY?

FOR
NOW, LET'S
HURRY
BACK TO
THE CITY
AND CHECK
IN ON
EVERY-
BODY.





AND
SO...

MYSTIC RUINS,
SOMERCA...

WELCOME TO
OUR NEW HOME
AWAY FROM HOME.
PRESENTING--THE
**SKY
PATROL!**

VERY
IMPRESSIVE!
NICE WORK,
ROTOR.

IT WAS A LABOR OF
LOVE, BUT TAILS AND
I PULLED IT TOGETHER.
SHE'S READY FOR
LAUNCH!

FIRST, THOUGH,
SPEAKING OF
PULLING THINGS
TOGETHER...

RIGHT.

LONG
STORY, SAL.
YOU'LL GET
UP TO DATE
...PRETTY
QUICK.
NICOLE--
DO YOU
THINK YOU
CAN RE-
STORE
THEM BOTH
?

NICOLE?
IS SOM-
ETHING
WRONG
...?

MAYBE,
I'LL HAVE TO
SHARE THE
CIRCUIT WITH
BOTH OF THEM
SIMulta-
NEOUSLY.
AFTER THAT,
THE GENESIS
WAVE ENERGY
WILL BE
SPENT.

OKAY,
AMY! SAL!
QUICK
STORY
TIME
BEFORE WE TRY
TO SAVE
THE
WORLD.

SAVE
THE
WORLD?
WHAT'S
GONE
WRONG
NOW?



YOU'RE NOT GONNA REMEMBER THIS, BUT.. TO PUT IT **REALLY** SIMPLY, EGGMAN TRIED REWRITING REALITY WITH SOMETHING CALLED THE *GENESIS WAVE*. I TRIED TO FIX THINGS. HE GOT IN MY WAY, AND OUR WORLD WAS...CHANGED.*



*"WORLD'S COLLIDE"
FINALE--STH #251.



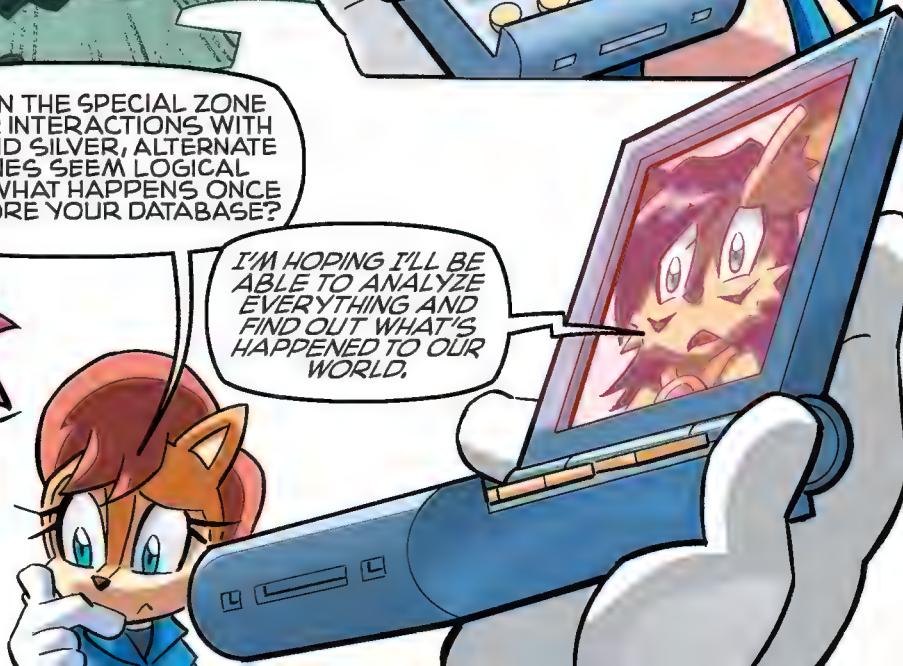
ANYWAY, IT LOOKS LIKE ONE SIDE-EFFECT WAS THAT SOME OF THE LEFTOVER ENERGY FROM THE WAVE GOT TRANSFERRED TO NICOLE, WHICH THREW HER SYSTEMS OUT OF WHACK. BUT WHEN SHE TRANSFERS THAT ENERGY TO US, IT FIXES HER A BIT, AND WE...WELL, WE REMEMBER, HOW THE WORLD USED TO BE.



WHOA...
A WHOLE
DIFFERENT
LIFE?



BETWEEN THE SPECIAL ZONE AND OUR INTERACTIONS WITH BLAZE AND SILVER, ALTERNATE TIMELINES SEEM LOGICAL ENOUGH. WHAT HAPPENS ONCE WE RESTORE YOUR DATABASE?



I'M HOPING I'LL BE ABLE TO ANALYZE EVERYTHING AND FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENED TO OUR WORLD.

Y'ALL NEED TO BRACE YOURSELVES, THO', IT'S A JARRIN' EXPERIENCE BY ITSELF, BUT THIS OTHER LIFE...THINGS WERE SO DIFFERENT, SALLY-GIRL. AND YOU...

NOW, HOLD ON. IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO TALK US OUT OF THIS. IF THIS RESTORES NICOLE, THEN THERE'S NO QUESTION ABOUT GOING FORWARD. IF THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS INVOLVED, THAT'S DOUBLY TRUE.



GIVEN EVERYTHING SONIC'S SAID, IT SOUNDS LIKE WE'VE BEEN GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE TO SAVE EVERYONE. BUT I CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT ALL OF YOU.

LIKE YOU'VE GOTTA ASK! WE'RE THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

OKAY, DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU.



AS LONG AS WE'VE GOT EACH OTHER, WE CAN HANDLE ANY CRISIS.

READY FOR THIS?

WHO KNOWS? LET'S JUST GET IT OVER WITH.

ALL RIGHT. FOR NICOLE, AND FOR THE WORLD.





VREEEEEE!

TAKE IT EASY, NICOLE. WHAT'S THE RUSH?

THIS IS...FAR WORSE THAN I ANTICIPATED. ANALYZING WHAT I NOW KNOW ABOUT THE DUAL REALITIES, I'VE FOUND IT WASN'T JUST THE PLANET THAT WAS AFFECTED...NOT JUST OUR REALITY.

THE ENTIRE MULTI-VERSE COLLAPSED IN UPON ITSELF.

ABOARD THE
DEATH EGG...

THE RESULTS ARE CLEAR.
EVERY FACET OF REALITY
FELL IN ON ITSELF AND WAS
THEN *RECREATED*, EVEN OUR
MOLECULAR MAKE-UP WAS
CHANGED TO MATCH OUR NEW
HISTORIES, THANKS TO MY
FAILED SUPER GENESIS WAVE.

METAL SONIC
RETRIEVED

AND SUPER
SONIC'S CHAOS
CONTROL,
WHICH YOU
INTERRUPTED.

YES.
YOU *KEEP*
REMINDING ME
OF THAT.

SO...IS THAT A
GOOD THING OR
A BAD THING?

WE
CAME OUT
FINE, SO WE
DODGED QUITE
THE METAPHOR-
ICAL BULLET!

ONLY
TO JUMP IN
FRONT OF A META-
PHORICAL CANNON!
WHEN I FIRST USED
THE GENESIS WAVE, IT
WAS ON JUST THIS
PLANET, AND THOSE
ENERGIES NEARLY
DESTROYED IT.*
THIS TIME...

*SEE THE EPIC
"SONIC GENESIS"
GRAPHIC NOVEL, FOR
THE FULL STORY.

...THIS TIME, I WAS RE-
WRITING *EVERYTHING*.
REALITY WAS CHANGED...
BUT NOW ALL THAT EXCESS
ENERGY HAS BEEN APPLIED
TO OUR ONE, LITTLE,
FRAGILE WORLD...

THAT
...SOUNDS
OMINOUS,
BOSS.

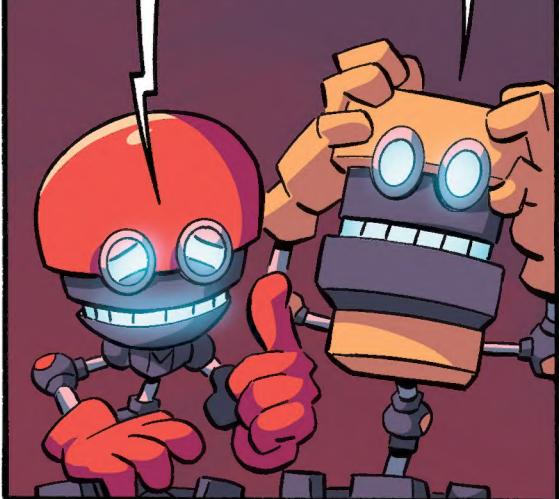
OMINOUS? I'M TALKING
ABOUT THE *END OF THE
WORLD*, YOU IDIOT! THE
PLANET IS GOING TO TEAR
ITSELF APART!

WOA--HOLD
ON, NICOLE, WE
SAVE THE WORLD
ALL THE TIME!

RIGHT! WHAT
DO WE DO TO
STOP IT?

...HA! HA-HA!
GOOD ONE, SIR.
YOU HAD ME
GOING THERE,
BOSS. YOU HAVE
A PLAN, YES?

YOU'RE A
GENIUS! YOU
CAN FIX THIS,
RIGHT?



IT'S
TOO
LATE!





IS THIS THE END?

Or only just the beginning?
You've met the new
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
--now watch as they're
put to the test!
You simply can't miss all
the action and adventure
coming atcha NEXT ISH!
See you in thirty!



SONIC-GRAMS

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OFF PANEL



WERE YOU ABLE TO
MAKE THE CHANGES TO THAT
OLD EGGMAN BLASTER
THAT I WANTED?
YEAH, WE SHOULD
BE GOOD TO GO!
ARE YOU READY FOR
TARGET PRACTICE?
YEAH, HIT IT!



GO!

SCRIPT: TYLER CAPPIS PENCILS: EVAN STANLEY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN COLORS: ALEAH BAKER



SUCCESS!



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SONIC-GRAMS

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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Hi, I'm Jamie. I love your Sonic the Hedgehog comics and I think that Countdown to Chaos is so awesome!!! I want to ask some questions.

What did you think of that EPIC ending? The chaos is just beginning so keep following the story, you won't wanna miss it! Oh, and you will be having the usual!

What can I do to make myself a better comic artist?

Draw everyday, especially from life! Great cartooning and illustrating starts only after you get a good sense of how everything appears in reality. Also, take a lot of art classes. Some colleges offer specific comic illustrating courses, check them out!

What does a penciller do?

The penciller is responsible for illustrating the story. The pencils should be tight and precise so that the inker knows where to add the shading and depth that give the pencilled images more definition. If the lines were sketchy, the inker would not know where to ink!

How can I catch up with the story without going on the Sonic/Archie app?

Although the app is most likely the fastest way to catch up, the Sonic Archives, Sonic Saga Series, and Sonic Universe graphic novels are some of the best options if you prefer paper over digital. For more information on these series checkout the Sonic Graphic Novel Library coupon in this issue!

I went by my favorite comic shop and found Best of Sonic the Hedgehog: Villains, what can I expect from it?

The Best of Sonic the Hedgehog: Villains is a collector's hard cover graphic novel featuring stories focused on the best of Sonic's worst enemies!

You guys are amazing, how can I get my letter into Sonic the Hedgehog? Please Please Please Please Please Please Put this letter in the comic!!!

Sincerely, Scourge's biggest fan, Jamie! sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the praise and the letter, Jamie! As you may have realized, saying please five times can sometimes do the trick! Keep drawing and be sure to stay right here with Sonic the Hedgehog!

See y'all next month for an exciting rescue story, DAMAGE CONTROL!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #256



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ISSUE

60

SONIC'S DARK DOPPLEGANGER
GOES BAD IN...

SHADOW FALL

PART 2 OF 4



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